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Reject

410606

**The Problem:** Lake Michigan Yellow Perch Quota of 65% by total poundage for commercial fishers no longer reflect current scientific or economic findings. Though with the emergency order of 1996 no commercial fishing for perch has taken place since then, yellow perch quotas are still on the books and need to be changed. And whereas Dr. Bishop (UWM) informed the Lake Michigan Fisheries Forum on May 12, 2003 that the economic value of sport caught fish is 10 times greater than that same fish caught commercially. And whereas the Administrative Code for the DNR, NR1.01(9)(c), states "the social, biological and economic values associated with all recreational fishing, competitive and non-competitive, are recognized." And since commercial perch fishing has been closed since 1996 and no further economic impact would be placed on the fewer than 25 remaining inactive Lake Michigan commercial perch fishers.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Milwaukee County on April 10, 2006, recommends that the Department of Natural Resources take action to correct this situation by adjusting the perch quota that reflects an equal percentage based on impact, usage, and economics as written in NR1.01(9)(c). And instead of the current 35 percent sport quota by poundage, the Lake Michigan Yellow Perch Quota should be readjusted to 85 percent for the sport quota by poundage.

Please note: this is being resubmitted from last year, as it was shelved due to a conflict with AB581.

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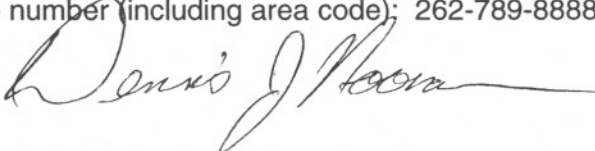
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Passed or ~~Failed~~

County Resolution Number: 410606

County Vote: (by show of hands or written ballot where appropriate)

YES 1 NO 7